I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

Further deregulation as proposed by the total privatization of the public airwaves represents the increased perpetuation and complete fulfillment of a program that already undermines the purpose of an independent media in a democracy.

The legal mandate of a

corporation is to make a profit. Thus, those in charge of making significant decisions for a corporation must put profit-making above all else. Having institutions of this type control the apparatus by which the public tries to inform itself creates a conflict of interest.

The facts and analysis that the public needs in order to make an informed decision at the polls and in their daily lives is not a product for sale to be manipulated by the economic elites who run corporations and hire editorial staff who will faithfully package and distribute their world view.

When the government, big busi! ness and the media speak with on

e voice we get fascism not democracy.